Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 175088 ORIGIN FAA-00

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DRAFTED BY FAA/AIA-130:ELJETT/RJWEBB APPROVED BY EB/OA/AVP:AJWHITE EB/OA/AVP:JMROBERTS SCA/SCS:RDBELT ARA/CCA:DBOWEN

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, CU

SUBJECT: CIVAIR: FLIGHT OPERATIONS IN CUBAN AIRSPACE

1. DEPARTMENT AND FAA/WASH DC ARE AWARE OF THREE INCIDENTS DURING PERIOD JUNE 29 THROUGH JULY 7 IN WHICH US CIVIL AIRCRAFT HAVE ENCOUNTERED DIFFICULTIES OPERATING INTO AND/OR OVER CUBAN TERRITORY. INCIDENTS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

A. CESSNA 177 N-3211T: FORCED DOWN AS REPORTED BY STATE 165913. DEPARTMENT AND FAA/W APPRECIATED USINT FOLLOW-UP CABLES. FAA HAS INITIATED INVESTIGATION AS TO POSSIBLE CAUSE.

B. CESSNA 310, N-3724Z, JULY 4, 1978: AIRCRAFT DEPARTED

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PAGE 02 STATE 175088

KEY LARGO, FLORIDA AND WHILE PROCEEDING SOUTHBOUND, PENETRATED THE CUBAN AIR DEFENSE IDENTIFICATION ZONE (ADIZ). AFTER MIG FIGHTERS BUZZED THE AIRCRAFT, THE PILOT TURNED NORTH LANDING AT ANDROS ISLAND, THEN AT NASSAU FOR FUEL AND ULTIMATELY RETURNED TO FT. LAUDERDALE. FAA WILL INITIATE INVESTIGATION.

C. CESSNA 404, N-3928C, JULY 7, 1978: IT WAS REPORTED

AIRCRAFT ENTERED CUBA AT 1405Z, FLIGHT LEVEL 31,000' HEADING FOR TAMPA. TWO MIGS CHASED AIRCRAFT, BUT LOST IT, AIRCRAFT WAS ON LEASE FROM OWNER. FAA MAY INITIATE INVESTIGATION.

2. IF MEMREX QUESTIONS USINT OR PASSES NOTE CITING ALLEGATIONS CONCERNING ABOVE INCIDENTS, USINT MAY ADVISE THEM THAT US WILL INITIATE INQUIRIES. UNINT SHOULD REFER TO 10FAM521.9 AS AN EXAMPLE OF KIND OF INFORMATION REQUIRED TO CONDUCT A THOROUGH INQUIRY. CHRISTOPHER

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